

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please add the following new section title and new paragraph after the title and before line 3 on page 1:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This is a U.S. national phase patent application of the PCT application No. PCT/FI03/00215 filed on March 20, 2003 that claims priority from Finish patent application no. 20020635 filed on April 3, 2002, both of which are incorporated by reference.

Please add the following new section title before line 3 and after the “CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION” section on page 1:

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

Please amend the specification at page 1, lines 3-7 as follows:

The invention relates to a transfer and insulation device, ~~defined in the preamble of claim 1, made from one single piece,~~ for electrically insulating electrodes, particularly anodes and cathodes, used in the electrolytic cleaning of metals in the electrolytic tank, for distributing electrodes as they are hanging in the electrolytic tank and for enabling the electrodes to be transferred.

Please add the following new section title after line 7 and before line 9 on page 1:

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Please add the following new section title after line 8 and before line 10 on page 3:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Please add the following new section title after line 13 and before line 15 on page 5:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Please add the following new section title after line 21 and before line 23 on page 5:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

Please amend the specification at page 2, the paragraph between lines 1 and 8 as follows:

A known way to arrange the distribution of electrodes in the tank is either to provide the electrode supporting elements with ~~nothing~~ notching on the side by which they are placed on the conductor rail, or by notching the conductor rail so that the supporting elements supporting the electrode are set in notches provided for them. One possibility is to arrange the distribution of electrodes by notching the insulation rail provided in connection with the conductor rails. By notching the structures where the electrodes are hanging, it is also possible to prevent contacts between adjacent electrodes.

Please amend the specification at page 3, the paragraph between lines 17 and 19 as follows

The invention is characterized by ~~what is set forth in the characterizing part of claim 1~~ as a transfer and insulation device which is made of one single piece comprising a transfer portion and an insulation portion used for electrically insulating electrodes from each other in an electrolytic tank, for distributing the electrodes as they are hanging in the electrolytic

tank and for enabling the electrodes to be transferred in the electrolytic cleaning of metals. Other preferred embodiments of the invention are characterize by what is set forth in the other claims.

In one embodiment the transfer and insulation device is made of a chemically resistant and insulating material. In another embodiment the transfer and insulation device is made of plastic. In yet another embodiment the transfer and insulation device is attached to a suspension rod of an electrode, on both sides of the electrode, essentially at an equal distance from the wall of the electrolytic tank, wherein such electrode suspension rod has preferably a fastening point for fastening the transfer and insulation device. In a further embodiment the transfer and insulation device surrounds part of the electrode suspension rod. In another embodiment, the transfer and insulation device only extends over a part of the width of the electrode. In yet another embodiment, the transfer and insulation device is provided with a grip lug for enabling the electrode to be transferred. In one embodiment, the device is arranged in the suspension rod of the electrode so that the grip lug extends towards the middle part of the electrode. In another embodiment, the grip lug is provided with an inclined part for adjusting the position of the gripping hooks transferring the electrode. In another embodiment, the transfer and insulation device includes a distribution element for insulating adjacent electrodes from each other. In yet another embodiement, the electrode is an anode.